



JOHNSONIAN NEWS LETTER

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THE OPTIMISTIC (?) EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

Perhaps no amount of fulmination or angry explosions can ever eliminate the traditional view that the early eighteenth century was a placid age of optimism and shallow rationalism. In the popular mind the reign of the first two Georges was an "oasis of tranquility," when social conditions were fixed and life was pleasant and uncomplicated. According to this view the period is epitomized by Pope's "Whatever is, is right," and the phrase is taken to mean complete acceptance of the world as it is.

In a recent lecture on Voltaire and the Lisbon earthquake Theodore Besterman remarked that people of the civilized world were complacent and optimistic until shocked out of their idle dream by the Portuguese disaster and Voltaire's savage poem about it. Almost single-handed Voltaire shook the world out of its false acceptance of the Leibnizian concept, with Pope as his mouthpiece, that this is the best of all possible worlds.

One can find the same attitude in T.D. Kendrick's The Lisbon Earthquake (Lippincott), where the author refers to the first half of the eighteenth century "with its enlightenment, its optimism, its cult of happiness, and its content with the status quo." Later in the book Kendrick stresses that this contentment had become a "universal mood," not only in aristocratic, but in popular circles as well. Almost everywhere one looks it is possible to find similar remarks. Colin Wilson in his brash The Outsider writes of the "intense and healthy optimism" of the eighteenth and nineteenth-century rationalism.

The certainty with which writers generalize in this way is shocking. Were people overwhelmingly content with life before 1755? Was Pope

the apostle of acceptance of the status quo? If so, how interpret the 4th book of the Dunciad? Or Pope's moral epistles and the Scriblerian pieces?

One's mind plays over other important literary works in England in the early century. Addison and Steele, to be sure, might fit into the formula, but what about Swift's poems and Gulliver's Travels? A Modest Proposal is scarcely a happy, tranquil work. And what of Gay's Beggar's Opera, Fielding's Jonathan Wild, Smollett's Roderick Random, Young's Night Thoughts, Gray's Elegy, Johnson's Juvenalian satires, Hogarth's prints? Were all these men voices for a placid, optimistic society? Or take John Brown's Estimate, published, to be sure, after the earthquake, but mirroring a profound pessimism which antedated that catastrophe. Is the gloom of the satirists no reflection at all of public sentiment? It is difficult to see how anyone who takes any time to examine the facts could ignore the evidence of a strong pessimistic stream of thought which ran deep throughout the eighteenth century. Even the Essay on Man is basically not an optimistic poem, certainly not when placed inside the main fabric of Pope's thought. Yet how are we going to get people outside the classroom to accept the idea that the eighteenth century was just as complex as any other?

We might add that, except for these facile generalizations about the age, resulting we presume from too much concentration on Voltaire and too little on the literature of England, Kendrick's book on the Lisbon earthquake is amusing and full of interesting details.

THE RISE OF THE NOVEL

For some years, when teaching the major eighteenth-century novelists, your editor has used Ian Watt's (California) stimulating articles. Now happily he has re-worked his material, together with much that is new, and presents it in a 319 page book The Rise of the Novel: Studies in Defoe, Richardson and Fielding (Univ. of California Press; Chatto and Windus in London). No matter whether you agree wholly with Watt's interpretations, we think you will admit that it is one of the most brilliant and illuminating books on the novel to appear in years. We heartily recommend it to you. To be sure, Fielding receives short shrift, and Watt candidly admits that this is so because Fielding's technique presents something of a challenge to the basic argument of the book. For that reason Watt seems less secure and rather ill at ease with the author of Tom Jones. (Fielding

and Smollett enthusiasts are sure to have twinges of regret and dissatisfaction). But the chapters on Defoe and Richardson are full of admirable insights. Watt sees clearly the importance of the shifting milieu, of the role of social development, of economic individualism, of the complex changes in the position of women in the family and in society, in the rise of the novel. And he writes about all this with verve and critical acumen. Although much of what he has to say skirts the fringes of literature, it seems to us that he makes his point that his approach is necessary for a true understanding of the new fictional techniques. Certainly Watt has set many challenges for those who teach courses in the novel.

JOHNSON AND BOSWELL NOTES

Ted Hilles (Yale) sends in the following annotation to Johnson's letters 407.1 and 408.2 in the Chapman edition. "In June 1775 SJ wrote letters of recommendation for the printer Edmund Allen. Yet editors have been unable to throw light on the nature of Allen's application. The minutes of the Council of the Royal Academy for 16 June 1775 record that William Griffin, Printer to the Royal Academy, had died and that five people had offered themselves to succeed him: his widow, Richardson, William Woodfall, 'Allan,' and Thomas Davies (who was already Bookseller to the Royal Academy). At that meeting Davies received the appointment. Johnson was in Lichfield at the time. The letters he wrote for Allen would have reached Sir Joshua too late to have been of any use."

We are happy to receive a copy of the Transactions for 1956 of the Lichfield Johnson Society, including the Presidential address by Dr. D. V. Hubble, "Samuel Johnson in Friendship." Included also are accounts of various meetings, and a paper by Dr. S. Lilley on "Dr. Erasmus Darwin of Lichfield."

Geoffrey Beard writes from Stourbridge that during a routine check at the Birmingham Reference Library an interesting association set of Johnson's Prefaces to the Lives of the Poets (1781) was noted -- once belonging to his life-long friend Edmund Hector. In volume five there is a note in Hector's handwriting recording that the set was given him by "ye author as a tribute of friendship." Hector's signature appears in four other volumes.

Arthur Sherbo (Mich, State) writes that despite recent thorough discussions of Johnson's part in writing the debates in parliament for

the Gentleman's Magazine, D.W. Jefferson continues a long-standing error by printing as Chesterfield's excerpts from one of the speeches written by Johnson. This occurs in Jefferson's edition of The Pelican Book of English Prose: 1700-1780, pp. 118-21.

We are pleased to receive from Albert Hall-Johnson in Buenos Aires newspaper accounts of the Johnson Supper in September, and an interview in which he described the activities and progress of the Johnson Society of the River Plate.

Ian M. Merrylees (Merton College, Oxford) is working on a study of biographical, anecdotic, and poetical accounts of Johnson printed during his lifetime. He would, we know, be glad to get in touch with others interested in the same topic.

The Booksellers League of New York honored McGraw-Hill Book Co. and the Boswell edition at its meeting on February 20. Among the speakers were Curtis Benjamin, Harold McGraw, Jr., and Fred Pottle. It was announced that 750,000 copies of the London Journal have now been sold. It has been translated into six European languages.

As part of the fifth annual Book Festival, station WNYC in New York broadcast on Monday April 8 a discussion of Johnson and Boswell by Fritz Liebert of Yale and James L. Clifford of Columbia. Maurice Dolbier, Book Critic of the Herald Tribune, was moderator.

The Johnson House in Gough Square has received a grant from the Minister of Works for urgent repairs. As many of you know, the funds available are never sufficient to keep up the house as it should be.

The following articles should be mentioned: Benjamin Boyce, "Johnson's Life of Savage and Its Literary Background," SP for October 1956; Donald J. Greene, "Johnson's Contributions to the Literary Magazine," RES for October; B.L. Reid, "Johnson's Life of Boswell," Kenyon Review, Autumn 1956; Percy A. Scholes, "Johnson's Two Musical Friends -- Burney and Hawkins," Canadian Music Journal, Autumn 1956; George L. Barnett, "Rasselas and De Senectute," N&Q for November; H.C. Carnie, "Lord Hailes' Notes on Johnson's Lives of the Poets," N&Q for November and following issues; D.M. Hill, "Johnson as Moderator" [in the Life of Milton], N&Q for December; Esther K. Sheldon, "Boswell's English in the London Journal," PMLA for December; R.W.

Ketton-Cremer, "Johnson's Last Gifts to Windham", Book Collector, Winter 1956; Mary Lascelles, "Johnson's Last Allusion to Mary Queen of Scots," RES for February 1957; Susie I. Tucker and Henry Gifford, "Johnson's 'On the Death of Dr. Robert Levet,'" Explicator for April 1957.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS

As a sample of the usefulness of JNL (we like to brag when we are able), we might mention that only a few days after our last issue reached subscribers, we had an answer to Tom Copeland's query. Charles Woods wrote in immediately that the lines misquoted by Burke came not from a "vile prologue" but from an excellent epilogue to Farquhar's The Constant Couple.

Our Business with good Manners may be done,
Flatter us here, and damn us when you're gone.

"Fast and efficient" is Tom's comment. Copeland, by the way, will next year be a member of the English Dept. of the University of Massachusetts.

Esmond de Beer recently received an honorary D. Litt. from Oxford University, in recognition of his remarkable edition of Evelyn's Diary, an honor richly deserved. He has now undertaken an edition of the correspondence of John Locke, and is hard at work on the thousands of letters written to Locke which are now in the Bodleian Library.

Jim Osborn writes that revivals of Congreve's Way of the World and Wycherley's Country Wife have been among the most popular plays of the London season. Both have been beautifully staged and acted.

Amusingly, a lecture by Jim Osborn at the Bibliographical Society in London on February 19th on "The Luttrell Centenary: 1657-1957" was preceded on the exact day by a sale at Sotheby's of a number of books and manuscripts from Luttrell's library. Bibliographical gremlins no doubt at work!

This year's show at the British Academy in London was entitled "British Portraits," and drew capacity crowds, anxious to see many privately owned works which rarely are available for inspection. A few in our period which may be mentioned are: Sir Peter Lely's Nell Gwyn in the nude; Kneller's Matthew Prior; Roubilliac's bust of Swift; Hogarth's Sir Francis Dashwood at his Mock Devotions; Ozias

Humphry's miniature of Sir Joshua Reynolds; Nollekens' bust of Fox; two self-portraits by Reynolds; Allen Ramsay's David Hume; J.B. Closterman's Third Earl of Shaftesbury; Rysbruck's bust of Alexander Pope. Also included (we owe all this information to Jim Osborn) was a series of miniatures by Pope's uncle, including one of his wife, Pope's aunt Christina (lent by the Duke of Portland) showing a profile very like Pope's, suggesting a strong resemblance to the Turners, his mother's family.

A new project is underway at Yale: an edition of Restoration political poetry, largely from the so-called Poems on Affairs of State and manuscript versions of the same type. The editorial board is made up of George de Forest Lord, General Editor; Elias F. Mengel, Jr., Textual Editor; Basil D. Henning, Maynard Mack, James M. Osborn, Kenneth Connelly, Howard Schless, Richard Vowles. There is also an advisory board. A progress report, issued in March, shows that work is pushing ahead much faster than had been expected. The first volume may be ready for the printers late in 1958. Anyone interested should write to Lord at 2055 Yale Station, New Haven.

Vedder Gilbert writes of a celebration of the Blake bicentenary to be held at Montana State University in April. There will be a special exhibit in the university library, and three lectures: two by Edmund Freeman of the English Dept., and one by Aden Arnold of the School of Fine Arts.

In all the hullabaloo over the television appearances of Charles Van Doren, we hope you noticed the fact that whenever he could he mentioned that he was writing a doctoral dissertation on William Cowper. An eighteenth-century student of course would be a winner!

We have heard from H. Teerink of Arnhem, Netherlands, who has recovered partly from an apoplectic stroke he suffered in July 1955. He has now unhappily had to give up all work on Swift (his collection, as you know, is now at the University of Pennsylvania), but he is able to do some quiet study of the history of his birthplace.

Max Patrick, our indefatigable brother editor of the Seventeenth-Century News, has sent on an interesting clipping from the London Times of February 15, an account from Milan of a presentation of Piccinni's La Buona Figliuola, the opera based on Richardson's Pamela. It has been, so the account insists, "one of the major

events of the current season." The opera "is a gem among comic operas, and its sparkle held London spellbound for half a century." Goldoni, you may remember, provided the text. The whole review of the present revival is enthusiastic, bristling with encomiums. Why won't someone arrange an American production?

Announcement has been made of the purchase by Columbia University of the John Jay papers, some 2000 items including letters from many important figures of the late eighteenth century. Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam has presented to the theological seminary of American University in Washington D.C. twelve letters of John Wesley. Many eighteenth-century manuscripts are included in the papers of the Earl of Crawford and Belcarres recently deposited at the John Rylands Library in Manchester.

On January 24, for the first time in sixteen years, the bells of St. Clement Danes in the Strand were rung. Though still not in place in the church, the recast bells were arranged on the sidewalk in front of the church, and the traditional "oranges and lemons" tune was sounded.

Scholars may not be aware that in the Sutro Library, a branch of the California State Library, there are some 15,000 English pamphlets published between 1640 and 1700, chiefly social and political history. Many are not to be found in any other American library. Most of them may be borrowed on interlibrary loan. Write to Sutro Branch, State Library Bldg., Civic Center, San Francisco 2, Calif. if you have any queries.

JOHNSON AND LEAR

Frederick V. Bernard (Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, Mich.) remarks that Johnson's comment on King Lear that "I was many years ago so shocked by Cordelia's death, that I know not whether I ever endured to read again the last scenes of the play till I undertook to revise them as an editor" has been taken generally, and with justice, to refer to an experience of Johnson's youth. Hill included the remark in a footnote under the year 1729 (Life, I, 70). But Bernard continues: "If Johnson is speaking here of a youthful experience, we may be almost certain he suffered a lapse of memory. Indeed, his language ('I know not whether') indicates his own uncertainty. He had read Lear so thoroughly in connection with the Dictionary that were the play lost to us, it could be almost entirely reconstructed from the

pages of that work. The final meeting between Lear and Cordelia alone is represented by no less than eight quotations from it ('cast downe,' 'out-frowne,' 'kneele,' 'Butterflies,' 'in' 'Incense,' 'Brand,' and 'fell'), and from the final hundred lines of the play are quotations illustrating 'hang,' 'prison,' 'mist,' 'Gentle,' 'Faultchion,' 'desperately,' 'Button,' and 'ghost.' The quotations are accurately given and do not appear to stem from memory."

NEW BOOKS

Roy McKeen Wiles (McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario) in Serial Publication in England before 1750 (Cambridge Univ. Press) has provided an important study for anyone interested in early eighteenth-century publishing and in the growth of the lower and middle-class reading public. Frankly, your editor was astounded to find out the extent to which the device of issuing books in installments grew during this period -- more than three hundred new and reprinted works issued, on almost every subject. Wiles has gathered together all the available evidence, with valuable chapters on the development of the practice, matters of law and profits, methods of promotion and distribution. In a large appendix he gives a short title catalogue of all books he can find that were published in fascicules before 1750. For such a detailed, technical work, it is obviously impossible here to give a thorough review. But we recommend it to you for serious study. It is a mine of useful information.

George C. Branam (L.S.U.) in Eighteenth-Century Adaptations of Shakespearean Tragedy (Univ. of Calif. Press) examines the various alterations not to express horror over atrocities, but to discover the motivation behind the changes. What results is a valuable study of changing taste. As Branam explains, the altered plays "provide a kind of laboratory manual of the diction, dramatic theory, and dramatic practice of the age." In an appendix there is a check-list of Shakespearean revisions from 1660 to 1820. All in all, this is an excellent book on an important subject.

The ACLS has issued a printed report of the conference held in Washington in January, 1956, with the title The Present-Day Relevance of Eighteenth-Century Thought. Roger P. McCutcheon is the editor. Among the speakers whose remarks are here summarized are: Ernest C. Mossner, Maynard Mack, George Boas, Peter Gay, Richard B. Morris, to name only a few. The pamphlet makes us even more sorry that we did not hear the original discussions.

Teachers besieged by students wanting to know just how people lived in the Age of Johnson will find a useful new reference to cite in Dorothy Marshall's English People in the Eighteenth Century (Longmans). She has chapters on the commercial framework; the social structure; constitutional arrangements; the nobility, gentry, and the middling sort; the laboring poor; agrarian and industrial developments; the impact of economic change on the social structure before 1800. The emphasis throughout is on economic relationships and social patterns. To be sure, experts in any one field will inevitably be able to pick holes in her discussion, but as a general popular survey, based on a careful reading of published evidence (there does not seem to have been much use of manuscript material), the book will be valuable for all of us. It is much more than a pot-boiler survey. There are in all over fifty illustrations.

We do not quite know what to say about Carmine Rocco Linsalata's Smollett's Hoax: Don Quixote in English (Stanford Univ. Press). In a rather truculent manner Linsalata proves to his own satisfaction that Smollett did not know Spanish, and that the translation of Don Quixote usually associated with his name was merely a hack production done by his subordinates, and largely cribbed from Charles Jervis's English version of 1742. Huge lists of parallel passages are provided to show the verbal resemblances between the Smollett and Jervis translations. And certainly no one will doubt that Jervis was constantly used by the later translators. But "hoax" is a strong word, and most translators use the versions which have gone before. Moreover, sometimes it is difficult to see just how a later writer can avoid using the same phrases to render into English a foreign language. For example, when both Jervis and Smollett (?) use "biting his lips" to reproduce the Spanish "apretando los labios" it is hard to see exactly what this shows of nefarious copying. But we will leave the scholarly weighing of the evidence to others better equipped for linguistic and textual analysis.

Although we have not seen a copy, we would like to mention that Fanny Burney's play Edwy and Elgiva, edited by Miriam Benkovitz, has been published by the Shoe String Press in New Haven.

Although only incidentally bearing on our field, Donald Clark's Rhetoric in Greco-Roman Education (Columbia Press) may well be mentioned. More and more we realize the importance of the classical rhetorical tradition for the study of eighteenth-century literature and thought.

The two latest issues of the Augustan Reprint Society (Nos. 63 and 64) are Parodies of Ballad Criticism (1711-1787), with an Introduction by Bill Wimsatt; and Prefaces to Three Eighteenth-Century Novels (1708-1751-1797), with an Introduction by Claude E. Jones.

Other recent books to be listed are: J.H. Plumb, The First Four Georges (Macmillan); John B. Owen, The Rise of the Pelhams (Methuen); Dudley W. Bahlman, The Moral Revolution of 1688 (Yale); Life at Fonthill from the Correspondence of William Beckford, translated and edited by Boyd Alexander (Hart-Davis); Cecil S. Emden, Gilbert White and His Village (Oxford) (a delightful little book, handsomely printed, with an index filled with such fascinating topics as bats, buzzards, chaffinches, bullfinches, earthworms, greenfinches, hoopoes, ring-ousels, stone-curlews, titmice, wrynecks and willowwrens); Geoffrey Handley-Taylor and F. Granville Barker, The Beggar's Opera: John Gay and the Ballad Opera (Hinrichsen), Boris Ford, Guide to English Literature, IV. Dryden to Johnson (Penguin); C. Willett Cunningham and Phyllis Cunningham, Handbook of English Costume in the Eighteenth Century (Faber); Selected Poems of William Blake, ed F. W. Bateson (Heinemann); Doris Mary Stenton, The English Woman in History (Allen and Unwin); Margaret Whinney and Oliver Millar, English Art, 1625-1714 (Oxford); Josephine Miles, Eras and Modes in English Poetry (Univ. of Calif.); Robert D. Bass, The Green Dragon: the Lives of Banastre Tarleton and Mary Robinson (Holt).

SOME RECENT ARTICLES

For the Restoration period -- W.O.S. Sutherland, Jr., "Dryden's Use of Popular Imagery in The Medal," Texas Studies in English for 1956; Francis Manley, "Ambivalent Allusions in Dryden's Fable of the Swallows," MLN for November; J.I. Cope, "Science, Christ, and Cromwell in Dryden's Heroic Stanzas," MLN for November; Morris Freedman, "All for Love and Samson Agonistes," N&Q for December; John Wain, "Restoration Comedy and Its Modern Critics," Essays in Criticism for October; David M. Vieth, "The Text of Rochester and the Editions of 1680," Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America for Third Quarter 1956; V. de S. Pinto, "Was Hobbes an Ogre?" Essays in Criticism for January 1957; James M. Osborn, "Reflections on Narcissus Luttrell," Book Collector, for Spring 1957.

For the early eighteenth century -- John Robert Moore, "The Canon of Defoe's Writings," The Library for September 1956; and "'Robin Hog' Stephens: Messenger of the Press" in Papers of the Bibliographical

Society of America for Fourth Quarter 1956; Donald F. Bond, "Addison in Perspective," MP for November; Aline M. Taylor, "Some New Light on William Bowen (1666-1718): Actor and Customs Officer," Tulane Studies in English, 1956; A.N. Wilkins, "John Dennis' Stolen Thunder," N&Q for October; Cyprian Blagden, "Henry Rhodes and the Monthly Mercury, 1702 to 1720," Book Collector for Winter 1956; William M. Peterson, "Cibber's She Wou'd and She Wou'd Not and Vanbrugh's Aesop," PQ for October.

Concerned with Swift -- Aline M. Taylor, "Cyrano de Bergerac and Gulliver's Voyage to Brobdingnag," Tulane Studies in English, 1955; Mackie L. Jarrell, "The Proverbs in Swift's Polite Conversation" in HLQ for November; Sheridan Baker, "Swift, 'Lilliputian,' and Catullus" in N&Q for November; James E. Ruoff, "Swift's Gulliver's Travels, Part IV, Chapter III" in Explicator for December; Paul Odell Clark and Roland Smith, two letters concerning Swift's little language and nonsense games in JEGP for January 1957; J.M. Stedmond, "Another Possible Analogue for Swift's Tale of a Tub" in MLN for January; John H. Sutherland, "A Reconsideration of Gulliver's Third Voyage" in SP for January; C.F. Main, "Defoe, Swift, and Captain Tom" in Harvard Library Bulletin for Winter 1957.

Having to do with Pope -- Francis E. Litz, "Pope and Twickenham's Famous Preacher" in MLQ for September; John M. Aden, "'First Follow Nature': Strategy and Stratification in An Essay on Criticism" in JEGP for October; J. Mitchell Morse, "Pope's 'Words Are Like Leaves,'" in N&Q for October; R.E. Hughes, "Pope's Imitations of Horace and the Ethical Focus" in MLN for December; R.N. Maud, "Pope and Miss Betty Marriot" in MLN for February; Francis Manley, "Pope's 'An Essay on Man,' IV, 121-130" in Explicator for April.

For some general articles see: Arnold H. Rowbotham, "Jesuit Figurists and 18th Century Religion," JHI for October 1956; Roger P. McCutcheon, "Eighteenth-Century Aesthetics: a Search for Surviving Values," Harvard University Bulletin for Autumn 1956; Bruce I. Granger, "The Stamp Act in Satire," American Quarterly for Winter 1956; John Abbot Clark, "Remembering Classicism," SAQ for January 1957; Ernest Tuveson, "Ideas of Progress," HINL for January; E.W. Strong, "Newtonian Explinations of Natural Philosophy," JHI for January; Robert McRae, "The Unity of the Sciences: Bacon, Descartes, and Leibniz," JHI for January; Kingsley B. Price, "Ernst Cassirer and the Enlightenment," JHI for January; R.W.V. Elliot, "Isaac Newton's 'Of an Universal Language,'" MLR for January; Vivienne Mylne, "Notes on Eighteenth-

Century Interjections," MLR for January; Richard H. Tyre, "Versions of Poetic Justice in the Early Eighteenth Century," SP for January; R.D. Spector, "Attacks on the Critical Review, 1764-1765," N&Q for March; John C. Stephens, Jr., "The Middle Style Imitated." (An Addisonian vision), Emory University Quarterly for March 1957.

Concerned with the novelists -- Norman Rabkin, "Clarissa: a Study in the Nature of Convention," ELH for September 1956; B.L. Reid, "Justice to Pamela," Hudson Review for Winter 1956-57; Rupert C. Jarvis, "Fielding and the Forty Five," N&Q for September and November; Guy Stern, "Fielding and the Sub-Literary German Novel: a Study of Opitz' 'Wilhelm von Hohenberg,'" Monatshefte for November 1956; E.P. Shaw, "A Note on the Temporary Suppression of Tom Jones in France," MLN for January 1957; Bernard Shea, "Machiavelli and Fielding's Jonathan Wild," PMLA for March; William Scott, "Smollett's The Tears of Scotland: a Hitherto Unnoticed Printing and Some Comments on the Text," RES for February; John H. Hicks, "The Critical History of Tristram Shandy," Boston University Studies in English for Summer 1956; Joseph I. Fradin, "Edward Bulwer Lytton and Laurence Sterne," HINL for October; Norman N. Holland, "The Laughter of Laurence Sterne," Hudson Review for Autumn 1956; A.R. Towers, "Sterne's Cock and Bull Story," ELH for March 1957.

Devoted to Burke are: Vernon F. Snow, "Robert C. Johnson's Appraisal of Edmund Burke's Eloquence," Quart. Journal of Speech for October 1956; T.H.D. Mahoney, "Edmund Burke, 1729-1797: a Portrait and an Appraisal," History Today for November; Garland H. Cannon, "Sir William Jones and Edmund Burke," MP for February 1957.

Articles on Blake -- G.E. Bentley Jr., "Blake, Hayley, and Lady Hesketh," RES for July 1956; Anna Balakian, "The Literary Fortune of William Blake in France," MLQ for September; G.E. Bentley Jr., "The Date of Blake's Vala or The Four Zoas," MLN for November; R. F. Gleckner, "Blake and Wesley," N&Q for December; G.E. Bentley, Jr., "Thomas Butts, White Collar Maecenas," PMLA for December; G. M. Harper, "Symbolic Meaning in Blake's 'Nine Years,'" MLN for January.

Miscellaneous -- R.H. Hurlbutt, III, "David Hume and Scientific Theism," JHI for October 1956; Morris Golden, "Goldsmith Attributions in the Literary Magazine," N&Q for October and November, and "Another Manufactured Anecdote in the Life of Richard Nash," N&Q for March 1957.

Other general articles will be included in our next number.